

REMARKS

Claims 2-12 are pending. By this Response claims 2-5 and 8-11 are amended, claim 1 canceled and claim 12 added. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the indication of claims 6 and 7 as being allowed. Applicants note that claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2-5 and 8-11 now depend from claims 6 or 7. Further, newly added claim 12 is an apparatus claim that corresponds to claim 7. Thus, with these amendments the application should be in condition for allowance.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1-5 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Peyla et al. (US 6,539,063), Huang et al (EP 0896457) and McCorkle et al. (US 6,505,032). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been canceled and claims 2-5 and 8-11 have been amended to depend from claims 6 or 7. Thus, the rejection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-12 are in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings Reg. No. 48,917 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


Application No. 10/824,395
Amendment dated November 16, 2009 (Monday)
After Final Office Action of September 14, 2009

Docket No.: 1906-0133PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: November 16, 2009 (Monday)

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Chad J. Billings
Registration No.: 48,917
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant